



Fire Chief Steve Earley
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Riverside CA 92504
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www.riversideca.gov/fire

the General Alarm

March 2013

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Public Safety Officer of the Month

Congratulations to Firefighter/Paramedic John Sierra for being selected as Public Safety Officer of the Month for March 2013. John is being recognized for his efforts as Medical Communications on two very significant incidents. The first incident was on December 28, 2012, involving a vehicle that crashed into four pedestrians waiting at a bus stop on Magnolia. All four patients had critical life threatening injuries. The second incident was on February 4, 2013, involving a vehicle that had struck four pedestrians crossing the street. Again all four patients had critical life threatening injuries.

John was the first arriving paramedic at both incidents. As the first arriving paramedic, it is important to triage the scene, evaluate the different levels of injuries, and determine the most suitable hospital to transport the patients. In a crisis situation where patient care and transport decisions can make a difference between life and death it is important that the first arriving paramedic maintain a systematic and competent method of organizing transport destinations and treatment priorities. John Sierra did just that, and he has been recognized for his commitment to excellent patient care and emergency scene coordination. John accepted his award at the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce "Good Morning Riverside" meeting on March 15 and was also honored at the City Council meeting on March 26.



March 2013

New Non-Emergency Dispatch Number

by Patty Tambe

NEW Non-emergency phone number for Riverside Police and Fire Dispatch. The City of Riverside's approximately 50 Public Safety Dispatchers are scheduled to move to the Magnolia Police Station, located at 10540 Magnolia Avenue, on April 24, 2013. The renovated space within the Magnolia Police Station will provide a more spacious environment with state of the art equipment. The new center will feature a new 911 answering system, improved radio technology and new ergonomic furniture and chairs. (PHOTO)

When the city dispatchers move, the number for non-emergency police and fire calls will also change. The city's new non-emergency response number will be (951) 354-2007. This new number will be effective on April 24, 2013.

Numbers to know:

911: Call for safety, fire and medical emergencies.

(951) 354-2007 (effective April 24, 2013): Call for non-emergency response for events such as a non-emergency car accident or discovery of a break in that may have occurred a few hours or days ago.



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Birthdays



March 2013

Retirees

With Sympathy...

April Birthdays

Mike Allen	4/9
Roger Cutshall	4/17
Steven Edwards	4/5
Gary Giovannetti	4/4
Scott Huchting	4/14
Dennis Hunt	4/28
Bryan Klinke	4/28
Stephen Loner	4/1
Steve McKinster	4/22
Christopher Naron	4/19
Steven Payne	4/29
Bill Schellhous	4/18
Sean Smith	4/29
Bill Stamper	4/11
Mark Thompson	4/8
Jonathan Turley	4/19
Tim Vanderhorst	4/12

Retired RFD Firefighter Sam Salinas (Jan 1973-May 2003) passed away on the morning of March 4. His funeral was held at the Grove Church on March 21 followed by the burial at the National Cemetery. RFD staff, crews, Honor Guard, and many retirees attended the service.



Helo Aquatic Class

Tyler Reynolds, Wayne Hess, Scott Wilson, Brian Davis, and Ron Rondero attended a 4-day Helo Aquatics Class in Santa Clarita where they practiced water rescues using helicopters.

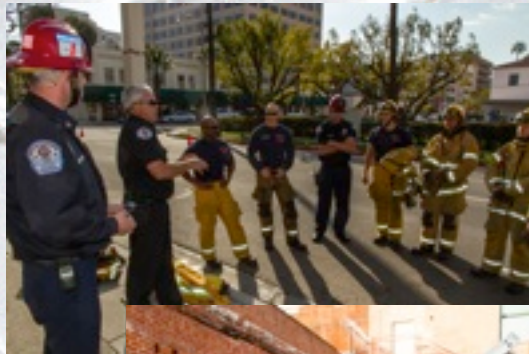


Training Photos

the General Alarm



March 2013



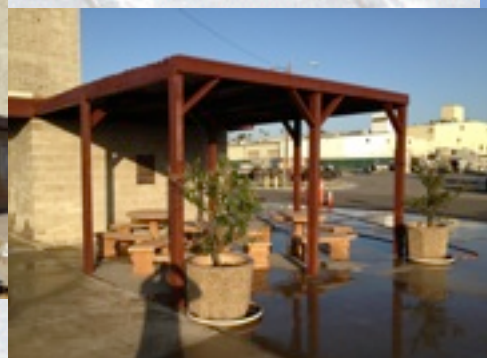
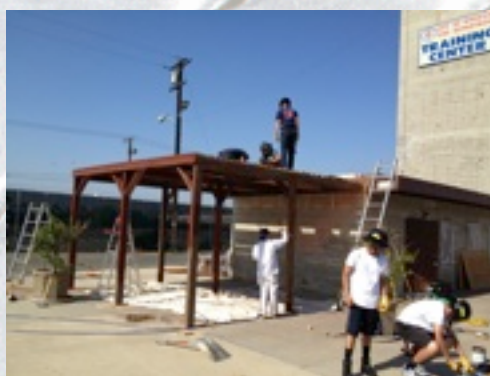
Above: C shift Ladder drill. Below:
Engine 7 on drill



Tower Patio Project by Jeff Lewis

March 2013

Explorer Post 101 helped repair and paint the Tower patio cover. Over a two-day work period, the group replaced much of the wood and painted the entire patio cover, trim, and eaves around the classroom. The following explorers received recognition from DC Wesche and were given certificates signed by Fire Chief Earley: Matt Penticoff, Timothy Weaver, Dillon Mihalik, Robert Garcia, Aaron Sehnert, Nick Coffman, Sergio Ramirez, Edgar Gallardo, Eric Gallardo, Jeffery Gaynor, Karla Espinoza, Tanner Roa, Richard Luna, Manuel Cruz, Dewey Acosta, Jose Ruiz, Xavier Gomez, Brett Williams. The department is thankful for the Explorers' hard work and attention to detail.



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CERT Conference by John Peurifoy

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March 2013

The City of Riverside Fire Department sent Fire Captain John Peurifoy, Community Preparedness Coordinator/CERT Manager Gina Perez, and K-9 Search Specialist/ CERT Instructor Peter Sellas to the 2013 Statewide CERT Conference and training event on March 1-3. The three day event was presented by California Volunteers and AREA "E" CERT. A variety of training classes were held each day. It was a great opportunity to learn more about the CERT Teams in our state. Over 300 people attended this event. In the photo, Riverside CERT Lead Instructor John Peurifoy addresses the crowd on how Riverside trains our members and the methods used and John, Gina, and Pete learn how to incorporate the use of "smart" devices such as tablets or iPads in their instruction.



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**Congratulations to FF Kyle Phillips on completing his 12
month probation test.**

American Legion Award

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Editor's Note: Dave Bakas was submitted for recognition prior to his promotion. The text below is from the memo sent out following his selection.

Captain Dave Bakas has been awarded this year's Firefighter of the Year Award from American Legion Post 289. Every year this post honors firefighters and police officers for their contributions to the department and the community.

Captain Bakas was nominated and chosen for the award for being a high energy employee who brings passion and enthusiasm to work each day. He has a strong desire to continue with, and improve upon, the training aspect of the fire service in order to ensure successful operations on emergency incidents.

He is currently assigned to the ladder truck company at the Magnolia Center Fire Station where he is a member of the Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team. This highly specialized team trains for and responds to low frequency/ high risk types of incidents, such as swift water rescue, structural collapse and trench rescue extrication. As a Technical Rescue Team member, Captain Bakas used these skills in responses to Hurricane Katrina, the Northridge Earthquake, and closer to home, a trench collapse on the 91/215 freeway interchange construction project.

A skilled instructor, Captain Bakas conducts training in areas including firefighter survival, rapid intervention crews, confined space rescue, and rope rescue operations, and was instrumental in developing department operating procedures for these disciplines.

An active member of the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) California Task Force 6 since its inception in 1991, Captain Bakas is presently a Rescue Team Manager. In this role, he is responsible for coordinating rescue operations during emergency incidents, as well as developing quarterly training exercises to maintain USAR Team readiness throughout the year. In addition, he was selected to serve as a Western Regional Training Representative for the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA), and the USAR programs, representing ten teams from California, Arizona and Washington. The USAR Training Group develops and reviews rescue program curriculum to ensure members are taught the most up-to-date techniques and safety procedures. Most recently, he was selected to be a member on the USAR Incident Support Team, which travels to events nationwide to provide assistance to teams at large scale disasters. All of the ancillary duties previously listed are in addition to the day to day duties of a company officer of the City of Riverside Fire Department.

Captain Bakas has been with the City of Riverside Fire Department since 1988 and on March 15, 2013, he will be promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief. The City of Riverside Fire Department is proud to have Captain Bakas as a member of its organization. Dave was presented the award at the American Legion Post's annual "Law and Order" dinner on March 21.



PHOTO ALBUM

March 2013



Training Division Trivia Question: Where is this poster located and how long has it been there? Contact DC Wesche or Cpt Bruce Vanderhorst with your answers.

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Newly promoted battalion chiefs Dave Bakas (2A) and Tony Perna (2B) receive their badges from Fire Chief Earley on their first official shifts at Fire Station 2



March 2013

RFD Family Day 2013

June 9, 2013

10am-3pm

RFD Training Tower
3085 St. Lawrence
Riverside CA 92504

Includes: Free food and drink; children's
activities; demonstrations; bucket
brigade competition

For More Information, Contact

Renee Griffin at

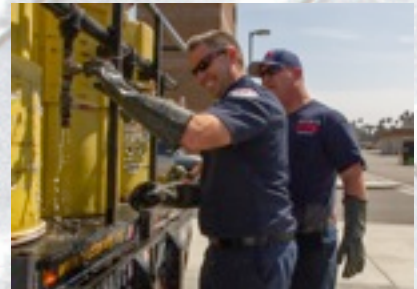
rgriffin@riversideca.gov

and for the bucket brigade,

Dave Revollo at

drevollo@riversideca.gov

HAZ MAT TECH CLASS



Through a UASI grant, Riverside City hosted a haz mat technician class in Jan-March. Jason Tinsman, Chad Selk, and Ron Nunan completed the class.

Flat Stanley Visits Downtown Fire Station

the General Alarm

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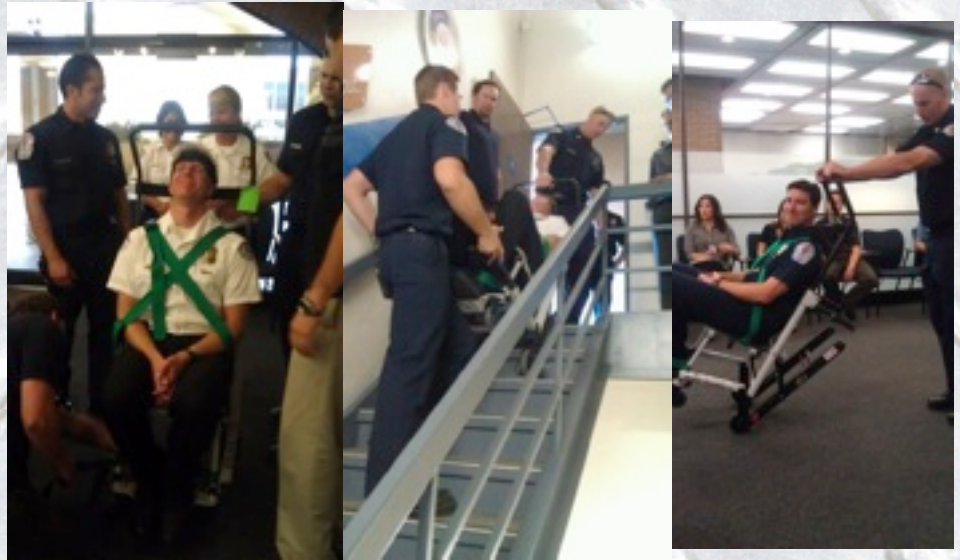


Cathy Mitchell's nephew and his 2nd grade class visited the Downtown Fire Station on March 22 at lunch. Station 1 C shift made the kids so happy by also allowing Flat Stanley to visit the Fire Station. Everyone was great and Flat Stanley had a fabulous time (he told me....). Cathy said thanks and that the firefighters are the best!!!



City Hall Evacuation by Cathy Mitchell

Truck 1 (Captain Bell, Dave Castaneda and Dustin Fenzke) and Engine 1 (Captain R Gabler, Dan Richmond and Charles Tasker) Came to City Hall today and did some evacuation training for city employees on the Stryker evacuation chair for the stairway. They gave us some emergency evacuation training and did a great job. We all feel very comfortable escorting people down the stairway in an emergency as you can see in the pictures. Thanks guys..... You're the best!



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Patriot Hook Exercise



USAR Logisticians Mike Williams, Tim Kessel, Steve Scotti, Carl Colby, Josh Lavin, and Pete Sellas participated in the 2013 Patriot Hook exercise where they flew between Los Alamitos Air Base and March AFB on March 16 & 17. It was a joint exercise with USAR and the military

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